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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Taylor DATE TYPED 3/9/05 HB _____

SHORT TITLE Scalping of Professional Tickets SB 988/aSFI#1

ANALYST Wilson

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
			\$0.1		General Fund

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

Attorney General's Office (AGO)

Corrections Department (CD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SFI#1 Amendment

The Senate Floor amendment #1 to Senate Bill 988 reduces the penalty for ticket scalping from a misdemeanor to a petty misdemeanor. The amendment also states that the offender should be sentenced in accordance with the provisions of Section 31-19-1 NMSA 1978 which states that a defendant has been convicted of a crime constituting a petty misdemeanor, the judge shall sentence the person to be imprisoned in the county jail for a definite term not to exceed six months or to the payment of a fine of not more than \$500 hundred or to both such imprisonment and fine in the discretion of the judge.

Synopsis of Original Bill

Senate Bill 988 expands the definition of the misdemeanor crime of ticket scalping. Under current law, the crime only applies to tickets for college athletic events. This bill expands the applicability to include selling tickets to professional athletic events at a price greater than the price charged at the place of admission or printed on the ticket.

Significant Issues

The crime of ticket scalping will now be extended to professional athletic events. This will create a larger area of ticket sales for law enforcement to monitor.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There will be a minimal administrative cost for statewide update, distribution, and documentation of statutory changes. Any additional fiscal impact on the judiciary would be proportional to the enforcement of this law and commenced prosecutions. New laws, amendments to existing laws, and new hearings have the potential to increase caseloads in the courts, thus requiring additional resources to handle the increase.

The bill could have a minor indirect negative impact upon the CD's probation program by increasing already high caseloads.

DW/lg:njw